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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1512

E.O. 11652: MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: PROVISION OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW) TRAINING SERVICES

REFS: A. PO/75/27, 11 MAR 75

B. MCM-6-75, 6 FEB 75

SUMMARY: NATO SECRETARY GENERAL (SYG) PO (REF A, QUOTED BELOW) REFERS TO A MILITARY COMMITTEE (MC) REQUEST (REF B) REGARDING PROVISION OF LIVE ELECTRONIC COUNTER-COUNTERMEASURE (ECCM) TRAINING FOR THE NATO INTEGRATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM AND EW TRAINING SERVICES FOR ACLANT/ACCHAN MAJOR EXERCISES. SYG SUGGESTS THAT, AS PRELIMINARY TO DISCUSSION IN DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DPC), THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC), REINFORCED BY FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS, BE ASKED TO EXAMINE AND REPORT ON THE MC PROPOSALS. THE MILITARY BUDGET COMMITTEE (MBC) HAS ALREADY CONSIDERED FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE MC PROPOSAL. IT IS RECOMMENDING NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL (NAC) ACCEPTANCE OF COMMON FUNDING FOR THE PROPOSED TRIAL ECCM TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE NATO INTEGRATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM AS AN EXCEPTIONAL MEASURE, BUT NOTES THAT OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL ARE NOT CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE FOR COMMON FUNDING AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMON FUNDING UNTIL FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE TRIAL PROGRAM CAN BE EVALUATED. MISSION BELIEVES SYG SHOULD WITHOUT DELAY FORWARD MBC RECOMMENDATION FOR COMMON FUND TRIAL PROGRAM TO NAC FOR APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION. AT SAME TIME, MISSION BELIEVES

SYG SHOULD REFER MC PROPOSAL NOT TO DRC BUT TO THE AD-70 EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP (EWG), ALREADY CHARGED WITH REVIEWING PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVEMENT OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE CAPABILITIES AS ONE OF THE BASIC ISSUES AREAS, FOR STUDY OF LONGER TERM POLICY ISSUES PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION BY THE NAC (INSTEAD OF DPC). MISSION SUGGESTS THAT, WITH THESE CHANGES, WE APPROVE REF A AND ENCOURAGE THE STUDY OF NECESSARY POLICY DECISIONS BY THE EWG. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN QUOTE: PO/75,27, 11 MAR 75.

1. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE SEEN MCM-6-75, WHICH EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ELECTRONIC WARFARE TRAINING AND INVITES THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO AGREE:

(A) THAT LIVE ECM TRAINING BE PROVIDED FOR THE NATO INTEGRATED AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM;

(B) THAT EW TRAINING SERVICES BE PROVIDED FOR THE ACLANT/ACCHAN MAJOR EXERCISES;

(C) THAT, WHEN THESE SERVICES CANNOT BE PROVIDED AT NO COST TO NATO, THE COST SHOULD BE MET BY NATO, THE METHOD OF FUNDING BEING DETERMINED BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

2. THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IS ALSO INVITED TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE THAT EW TRAINING SERVICES SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR LIVE MAJOR LAND, SEA AND AIR EXERCISES IN ACE ON A SCALE TO BE DETERMINED LATER.

3. I WOULD REMIND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES THAT IN THE MOST RECENT AD 70 REPORT IT WAS STATED THAT THE SITUATION REGARDING ECM CAPABILITIES OF NATO AIR FORCES IS NOW SO GRAVE THAT THE VERY SURVIVABILITY, LET ALONE MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT OF NATIONAL AIR FORCES IS AT STAKE. ELECTRONIC WARFARE HAS BECOME A VITAL AND INTEGRAL PART OF MODERN WARFARE FOR ALL THREE SERVICES, AND LACK OF IT MAY BE A DECIDING FACTOR IN THE OUTCOME OF ANY COMBAT. MOREOVER THE POSSESSION OF EQUIPMENT DOES NOT BY ITSELF PROVIDE AN EW CAPABILITY; EFFECTIVE TRAINING OF PERSONNEL IS ALSO NEEDED.
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4. THIS IS NOT A PURELY MILITARY PROBLEM, NOR YET A PURELY FINANCIAL ONE. I BELIEVE THAT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE IT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN A FORUM IN WHICH THE MILITARY, TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS CAN BE BALANCED AGAINST EACH OTHER. I SUGGEST, THEREFORE, THAT AS A PRELIMINARY TO DISCUSSION IN THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE, THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE (REINFORCED AS APPROPRIATE BY FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS) BE ASKED TO EXAMINE AND REPORT UPON THE PROPOSALS PUT TO US BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

5. UNLESS I HEAR TO THE CONTRARY BY 25TH MARCH, I WILL ASK THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE TO ACT ACCORDINGLY.

END QUOTE.

2. THE MBC HAS EXAMINED REF B AND IS PREPARING A REPORT TO NAC AFFIRMING THAT PROPOSALS ARE NOT CURRENTLY ELEGIBLE FOR COMMON FUNDING AND CAUTIONING AGAINST THEIR ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE PENDING EXAMINATION OF SIZABLE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. IT RECOMMENDS THAT, AS AN EXCEPTIONAL MEASURE, THE NAC APPROVE FOR COMMON FUNDING THE MC PROPOSAL FOR A TRIAL PROGRAM TO EXPLORE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RAMIFICATIONS OF THE TOTAL REQUIREMENT (PARA 9, REF B).

3. THE MBC ACTION IS A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD COMMON FUNDING OF LIVE ECCM TRAINING FOR THE NATO INTEGRATED AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM. A MAJOR SHIFT IN THE POSITION OF CANADA AND THE UK MADE POSSIBLE THIS AGREEMENT ON COMMON FUNDING THE TRIAL PROGRAM. WE BELIEVE THE SYG SHOULD FORWARD THE MBC RECOMMENDATION FOR COMMON FUNDING THE TRIAL PROGRAM TO THE NAC WITHOUT DELAY. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE BELIEVE MAJOR POLICY DECISIONS ARE REQUIRED TO RESPOND TO THE MC (PARA 13, REF B) AND THAT THE SYG SHOULD FORWARD REF B TO THE EWG, ALREADY CHARGED WITH REVIEWING PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVEMENT OF ELECTRONIC WARFARE CAPABILITIES AS ONE OF THE BASIC ISSUES AREAS, FOR STUDY AND REPORT TO THE NAC. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE FOR MISSION RESPONSE TO REF A BY MARCH 25 DEADLINE.
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